

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

determining if a smartcard is operatively available, said smartcard having smartcard memory;

requiring entry of a password and authentication by the smartcard;

identifying ~~at least one~~ a root certificate stored in said smartcard memory;

reading said ~~at least one~~ root certificate from said smartcard memory;

storing said ~~at least one~~ root certificate in a computer memory of a computing device ~~having computer memory, the computing device~~ operatively coupled to said smartcard, wherein the storing comprises copying said ~~at least one~~ root certificate from the smartcard to a certificate store maintained in said computer memory;

determining when said smartcard is no longer operatively available to the computing device; and

erasing said root certificate from said computing device operatively coupled to said smartcard in response to determining that ~~when~~ said smartcard is no longer operatively available.

2-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having computer-implementable instructions for causing one or more processing units to perform acts comprising:

determining if a smartcard, having smartcard memory with ~~at least one~~ a root certificate stored therein, is operatively available;

requiring user authentication for the user to discover presence of the ~~at least one~~ root certificate within the smartcard and to gain access to the ~~at least one~~ root certificate;

reading said ~~at least one~~ root certificate from said smartcard memory;

storing said ~~at least one~~ root certificate in a device operatively coupled to said smartcard, wherein said device comprises a computing device having computer memory and wherein storing said ~~at least one~~ root certificate in said device operatively coupled to said smartcard comprises copying said ~~at least one~~ root certificate from the smartcard to a certificate store maintained in said computer memory;

determining when said smartcard is no longer operatively available; and

~~no longer storing~~ erasing said root certificate in said device coupled to said smartcard in response to determining that ~~when~~ said smartcard is no longer operatively available ~~by removing said stored root certificate from a certificate store maintained in computer memory of said device by erasing it from the computer memory.~~

10-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium as recited in Claim 9, having further computer-implementable instructions for causing one or more processing units to perform acts comprising:

authenticating information associated with said smartcard prior to reading said ~~at least one~~ root certificate.

13-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a computing device having computer memory;

a smartcard interface device operatively coupled to said computing device and configurable to operatively interface to a smartcard, having smartcard memory with ~~at least one~~ a root certificate stored therein; and

logic, within the computing device, configured to identify when said smartcard is operatively available via said smartcard interface device, identify said root certificate in said smartcard memory, and cause said smartcard interface device to read said identified root certificate from said smartcard memory and store said root certificate to a certificate store maintained in said computer memory of the computing device, wherein said logic is further configured to determine when said smartcard is no longer operatively available, and ~~remove~~ erase said root certificate in said certificate store in said computer memory of said computing device, in response to determining that when said smartcard is no longer operatively available.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The system as recited in Claim 17, wherein said logic is further configured to authenticate information associated with said smartcard prior to causing said smartcard interface device to read said root certificate.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

determining if a smartcard is operatively available, said smartcard having smartcard memory;

identifying ~~at least one~~ a root certificate stored in said smartcard memory;

reading said ~~at least one~~ root certificate from said smartcard memory;

storing the ~~at least one~~ root certificate, by copying said ~~at least one~~ root certificate from the smartcard to a certificate store maintained in computer memory of a computing device operatively coupled to said smartcard;

determining when said smartcard is no longer operatively available to the computing device; and

erasing said root certificate from said computing device operatively coupled to said smartcard in response to determining that ~~when~~ said smartcard is no longer operatively available.

22. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 21, further comprising:

authenticating information associated with said smartcard prior to storing said ~~at least one~~ root certificate.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having computer-implementable instructions for causing one or more processing units to perform acts comprising:

determining if a smartcard is operatively available, said smartcard having smartcard memory;

reading ~~a said at least one~~ root certificate from said smartcard memory;

storing said ~~at least one~~ root certificate in a computing device having computer memory operatively coupled to said smartcard memory, wherein the storing comprises copying said ~~at least one~~ root certificate from the smartcard to a certificate store maintained in said computer memory;

determining when said smartcard is no longer operatively available to the computing device; and

erasing said root certificate from said computing device having computer memory operatively coupled to said smartcard memory in response to determining that ~~when~~ said smartcard is no longer operatively available.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium as recited in Claim 23, having further computer-implementable instructions for causing one or more processing units to perform acts comprising:

authenticating information associated with said smartcard prior to storing said ~~at least one~~ root certificate in said smartcard memory.

25-33. (Cancelled)